

(c) fields in which the women entrepreneurs are engaged; and

(d) what initiatives Government have taken to encourage these women entrepreneurs in the State so that other women are also encouraged to established their ventures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) As reported by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, there are at present 2537 units set up by women entrepreneurs in the State mainly in the fields of agro products, food processing and consumer products.

(d) While development of Small Scale Industries including those of women, entrepreneurs in the States is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments, the Central Government has been helping the States including Andhra Pradesh in their endeavour by supporting various schemes such as organising Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, Trade Related Entrepreneurship Assistance and Development (TREAD), Mahila Udyam Nidhi and Mahila Vikas Nidhi, run by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) etc. As part of its efforts to promote women entrepreneurs in the State, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has established a separate Industrial Estate at Gajularamaram, Rangareddy, District for facilitating setting up of industries exclusively by Woman entrepreneurs.

Unmanned mission to the moon

†1362. SHRI R. P. GOENKA:

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Space Research Organisation plans to launch an unmanned mission to the moon during the next decade at an estimated cost of Rs. 350 crores; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[2 August, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) if so, the details of the plans including the major benefits likely to accrue for various development activities of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir. Only preliminary studies have been undertaken, primarily related to definition of possible scientific objectives, conceptualisation of mission including the spacecraft and feasibility of using Indian launch vehicles to send an unmanned scientific spacecraft to the moon. A task force set up by ISRO is considering the various possibilities, including sending an unmanned spacecraft to orbit the moon using ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV). The cost aspects can be known only after the studies are complete and the vehicle to be used, the spacecraft configuration and the instruments to be carried on the spacecraft are defined.

(b) If undertaken, the Lunar Mission, can provide impetus to science in India, challenge to technology and possibly, a new dimension to the international co-operation. It can also serve as a test bed for future missions that could be undertaken by India to explore outer world in the new millennium. It can maximally use the scientific and technical capabilities that India has acquired so far in terms of launch vehicles, satellites and scientific, technological and application payloads, thus integrating the knowledge for Lunar exploration.

Space science centres

1363. **SHRI B. J. PANDA:** Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of space science centres set up in the country so far;

(b) whether Government propose to set up some new space science centres during the year 2001-2002;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and;

(d) the steps taken thereon;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) In addition to the three Space Science Centres (*viz.*, physical Research Laboratory, Amhmedabad; National MST Radar Facility, Gadanki; North-Eastern Space Applications Centre, Shillong) established under the Department of Space, some of the institutions under the Department